M JN 10-1 LIBYA
Department of State
M PET 15-2 LIBYA

TELEGRAM

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CJ DATE 6/22/81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 2109

PARIS FOR US OECD

SUBJ: OIL COMPANIES' CHALLENGE TO LIBYAN FOREIGN EXCHANGE RULING

REF: TRIPOLI 2064

1. SUMMARY: THE LARG HAS ATTACHED ESSO'S LOCAL BANK ACCOUNTS BUT HAS NOT MOVED AGAINST ANY OF THE OTHER OIL COMPANIES AS YET. FUTURE TACTICS VIS-A-VIS THE LARG DEPEND UPON DECISIONS OF LONDON

(3)

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Tripoli 2109
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WORKING GROUP AND OUTCOME OF ESSO TALKS NOV 11 WITH MINISTER OF PETROLEUM MABRUK. THESE TACTICS PROBABLY WILL INCLUDE INVITING MABRUK TO ATTEND VIENNA EXPERTS MEETING [redacted] B4
[redacted] END SUMMARY.

2. [redacted] B4

3. [redacted] REPORTED THIS LATEST LARG ACTION TO LONDON WORKING GROUP AND IS NOW AWAITING RETURN OF TWO LOCAL PETROLEUM REPS, JOHNSON OF MARATHON AND HOLVES OF SHELL, LATE AFTERNOON OF NOV 11 FROM LONDON. THEY PRESUMABLY WILL CARRY LATEST INSTRUCTIONS OF WORKING GROUP. B4

4. [redacted] ONE TACTIC SURE TO BE ADOPTED BY COMPANIES IS TO INVITE MABRUK TO ATTEND NOV 22 COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS MEETING IN VIENNA. B4

5. [redacted] SLIGHT ENCOURAGEMENT FROM FACT HE NOW HAS COPY OF LETTER FROM NATIONAL BANK TO MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM STATING ESSO'S ACCOUNT HAS MORE THAN LD 294,778, WHICH IS OUTSTANDING DEBT CLAIMED BY LARG; [redacted] HOPEFUL REMAINING COMPANY FUNDS WILL BE FREED, THUS PERMITTING NORMAL OPERATIONS. B4

6. [redacted] AT A LOSS TO EXPLAIN WHY ESSO BEING SINGLED OUT FOR THIS TREATMENT BY LARG; HE OPINES LARG MAY FEEL ESSO HAS "LED THE PACK" AND BEEN KEY FORCE IN UNITING OTHER OIL COMPANIES. WE FEEL [redacted] EXPLANATION PROBABLY IS PART OF REASON, BUT SUSPE[redacted] B1

PALMER
UNQUOTE
PALMER

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